220040

MICHAELT, McCAUL 1014 DISTRICT, TEXAS

43

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMBRIBHS THREATS, CYBERSEQURITY, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHEP

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **BC** 20515-4310

August 6, 2007

Washington Office 131 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 1202) 225–3401

AUSTIN DIFFICE. 903 SAN JACKITO, SUITE 320 AUSTIN, TX 78701 1512) 472-2257

Brenham Office: 2000 Squith Market, Suite 203 Brenhama, TX 77833 (975) 830-8497

> KATY OFFICE: 1860 FOXLAKE, SUITE 120 HOUSTON, TX 77084 (281) 288-1247

TOMBALL OFFICE
TOMBALL ROSEWGOOD PROFESSIONAL BUILDING
990 VALAGE SQUARE, SUITE B
TOMBALL TX 77375.
(281) 255-8372

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 670 395 E Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Ex Parte No. 670, Establishment of the Rail Energy Transportation

Advisory Committee

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am writing to support the nomination of Dan Kuehn of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) to serve as a member of the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) to be established by the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

Dan serves as Executive Manager of Wholesale Power Services for LCRA. As part of its mission, LCRA operates a not-for-profit electric system that exists to serve the wholesale electric needs of its Texas consumers. LCRA provides wholesale electric service to more than 40 municipalities and electric cooperatives, providing electricity for more than 1 million people in Central Texas.

The majority of my congressional district is served by public power. In fact, LCRA provides wholesale electricity to eight cities and electric cooperatives in my district. I have been very impressed with LCRA's ability to provide affordable, reliable service to Central Texas customers.

A significant amount of LCRA's power is generated by coal. LCRA co-owns and operates the Fayette Power Project (FPP) with Austin Energy. FPP burns approximately 6.5 tons of coal a year. The main fuel source is coal from the Powder River Basin of Wyoming which is delivered by rail. Dan has been involved in the procurement of reliable and cost-effective energy transportation

services for over 25 years and, given his knowledge and expertise of the issues, he is uniquely qualified to serve as a member of RETAC.

I am pleased to recommend Dan Kuehn for RETAC. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hill T. MEL

Congressman Michael McCaul